The WESTERN RAILROADER

For the Western Railfan

Issue 162 NEWS SUPPLEMENT April, 1953

SACRAMENTO NORTHERN TO REBUILD LISBON TRESTLE

Western Pacific directors have voted to rebuild the Lisbon trestle which collapsed July 24, 1951 and caused SN to run via trackage rights over the Santa Fe between Stockton and Port Chicago. $1,200,000.00 will be spent to rebuild the trestle as a concrete structure. Nothing has been said about electric operation on the line.

PACIFIC ELECTRIC PASSENGER SERVICE SOLD TO EX-NCL HEAD

Former National City executive, Jesse Haugh has concluded negotiations for the purchase of all Pacific Electric rail and bus passenger service by "Western Transit Systems" The P.E. will retain the physical rail properties, including the interurban cars, selling the busses and garages and leasing trackage rights and rail cars. The "deal" requires the approval of the state public utilities commission and the I.C.C., but the N.C.L. "know-how" should be enough to put over the deal of separating a profitable freight operation and a so-called "unprofitable" passenger operation and quick bus substitution. P.E. will get eight million dollars for its busses and garages, but nothing is said about the lease of trackage rights and cars for rail service. Los Angeles newspapers look to an early end to rail service. P.E. will retain all freight facilities under the plan. Sacramento City lines did the same thing when it purchased the Sacramento Northern and Central Cal Traction lines in 1942.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC ENGINE SCRAPPINGS

1256	2/5/53	Bayshore	3225	1/27/53	Sacramento
1280	2/16/53	Los Angeles	3257	11/12/52	Sacramento
1623	2/28/53	El Paso	3266	12/5/52	Los Angeles
1804	2/28/53	Bayshore	3269	12/19/52	Sacramento
2404	1/23/53	El Paso	3274	1/9/53	El Paso
2428	2/17/53	El Paso	3301	12/8/52	Bayshore
2441	1/16/53	El Paso	3656	1/27/53	Sacramento
2449	12/12/52	Sacramento	4106	2/5/53	Sacramento
2740	11/11/52	Bayshore	4110	2/3/53	Sacramento
2790	12/12/52	Sacramento	4144	2/18/53	Sacramento
2839	12/19/52	Sacramento	4306	2/18/53	Sacramento
2847	2/18/53	Bayshore	4317	11/13/52	El Paso
3123	1/27/53	Sacramento	4328	2/27/53	Los Angeles
3201	2/9/53	Los Angeles	4389	2/18/53	Sacramento
3213	11/21/52	Sacramento	5004	2/18/53	Sacramento

T&NO 700 has been reunumbered 2nd 4403; T&NO 921 renumbered to 3759. Fourteen 5000's are being vacated and the entire series of 4-10-2 3-cylinder mallets may be retired within a year. The 4100's listed above are the first of six to be scrapped. The 4401 heading train 71 hit a cement truck near Mountain View on March 23rd and turned over on its side. No one was hurt, but some 30,000 dollars in damage was reported---will the 4401 be the first of the 4-8-4's to be scrapped?

The modernized chair cars went into service on the Senator and El Dorado the 1st of March. New steps, new seats, new washrooms, repainted and airconditioned---- "Next time try the train".

SANTA FE NOTES RDC's 191 and 192 are being rebuilt to remove steps on one end and strengthen the end to protect the crew in case of auto accidents. coffee vending machines are also being added to the cars.

Four of the older diesels have been sent back to the builder for rebuilding by EMD from 1800 hp units to modern 2000 hp units. They have also been renumbered as follows: #2 to #80; 4 to 81; 4-A to 81-A, 5 to 83.

Engines 2800-2819 have been renumbered 3000-3019; 2150-2153 renumbered to 650-653; 306-316 renumbered 325-335.

WESTERN PACIFIC NOTES The "Inside Gateway" route for freight shipments via Western Pacific, Great Northern and Santa Fe has cut the running time between Seattle and Los Angeles to 83-3/4 hours.

CRANDIC ONLY WANTED PARTS Bamberger freight motors 550 and 551 sold to the Cedar Rapids & Iowa City have been scrapped following removal of parts wanted by Crandic. The Bamberber lightweights are being sold for housing at $500 per shell. - Fred Fellows

RAILFAN PUBLICATIONS We are most pleased to report that the Pacific Railroad Society has copies of Ira Swett's PENINSULAR RAILWAY issue of "Wheel Clicks" still available for sale. It is an outstanding work originally issued in 1944. Copies are 50¢ each (16 pp 8½x11) from Pacific R.R. Society, P.O. Box 5279, Metropolitan Station, Los Angeles 55, California.

On the other side of the country the North Jersey Chapter NRHS is offering copies of its "Fast Line Album (16pp 6x9) at 50¢ from R.S. Wendeling, 114 Oakley St., Roselle, New Jersey.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FANTRIPS April 26th the Pacific R.R. Society will run a Union Pacific excursion to Yermo and Kelso for $13.25. Write Cook Reeves, Pacific R.R. Society, P.O. Box 5279, Metropolitan Station, Los Angeles 55, California.

July 3-12 the Ry Club of So. Cal. will have a full week tour to Idaho to visit the Camas Prairie RR. Fare from LA (all-rail) $90 coach; $167 lower berth. Fares from Northern California available. Write: Ry Club of So. Cal., 5715 Marmion Way, Los Angeles 42, California.

July 26 the Pacific R.R. Society will run a S.P. trip to San Luis Obispo and Santa Margarita pass using steam power. Address above.

ODDS & ENDS Huntington & Broad Top R.R. mentioned in issue 160 is a standard gauge line. S.P. is using a double gauge frog at Colton formerly at 6th & Hill (P.E. & LARY).

The Western Railroader

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